## VERIFICATION OF OYSTER TREATMENT PROCESS TO REDUCE VIBRIO VULNIFICUS TO NON-DETCTABLE LEVELS

Title 17, California Code of Regulations Section 13675

Pursuant to Title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 13675(g), the Department of Health Services has determined that cysters harvested from the Gulf of Mexico and processed as I.Q.F. Half-shell Oysters by

Hillman Shrimp and Oyster Co. Rt. 3, Box 409 Dickinson, TX 77539 Shellfish Certification Number: TX 284 SP

have been scientifically validated to reduce the level of *Vibrio vulnificus* in raw Gulf oysters to "non-detectable" (<3 MPN/g) and are not subject to the restrictions for sale required by Section 13675(c)(5) or written warnings required in Section 13675(b).

Section 13675 (h) requires that the oyster processor provide a copy of this exemption letter to any dealer or retail food facility in California to whom the processor sells or provides processed Gulf of Mexico oysters.

Notice Expires: February 26, 2006

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

James M. Waddell, Chief Food and Drug Branch Department of Health Services